

**MARK A. LITMAN & ASSOCIATES, P.A.**

**United States Patent Application**  
**COMBINED DECLARATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY**

As a below named inventor WE hereby declare that: our residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated below next to our names; that

We verily believe We are the original, first and joint inventors of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled: **CARD SHUFFLER WITH READING CAPABILITY INTEGRATED INTO MULTIPLAYER AUTOMATED GAMING TABLE** and assigned U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 10/764994 filed on January 26, 2004. The specification of which is attached hereto.

We hereby state that We have reviewed and understand the contents of the above-identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment referred to above.

We acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to the patentability of this application in accordance with Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, § 1.56 (see page 3 attached hereto).

We hereby claim foreign priority benefits under Title 35, United States Code, §119/365 of any foreign application(s) for patent of inventor's certificate listed below and have also identified below any foreign application for patent or inventor's certificate having a filing date before that of the application on the basis of which priority is claimed:

**No such applications have been filed.**

We hereby claim the benefit under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) of any United States provisional application(s) listed below.

**No such applications have been filed**

We hereby claim the benefit under Title 35, United States Code, § 120/365 of any United States and PCT international application(s) listed below and, insofar as the subject matter of each of the claims of this application is not disclosed in the prior United States application in the manner provided by the first paragraph of Title 35, United States Code, § 112, I acknowledge the duty to disclose material information as defined in Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, § 1.56(a) which occurred between the filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT international filing date of this application.

This application is a continuation-in-part of U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 10/623,223 filed July 17, 2003, titled "CARD SHUFFLER WITH CARD RANK AND VALUE READING CAPABILITY, which is in turn a continuation-in-part of U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 10/261,166 filed September 27, 2002, titled CARD SHUFFLING APPARATUS WITH AUTOMATIC CARD SIZE CALIBRATION which, is in turn a continuation-in-part of Application Serial No. 10/128,532 filed April 23, 2002, now U.S. Patent 6,651,982, titled CARD SHUFFLING APPARATUS WITH INTEGRAL CARD DELIVERY, which is in turn a continuation-in-part of Application Serial No. 09/967,502 filed September 28, 2001, now U.S. Patent 6,651,981, titled CARD SHUFFLING APPARATUS WITH INTEGRAL CARD DELIVERY.

We hereby appoint the following attorney(s) and/or patent agent(s) to prosecute this application and to transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected herewith:

CARD SHUFFLER WITH READING CAPABILITY INTEGRATED  
INTO MULTIPLAYER AUTOMATED GAMING TABLE

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Litman, Mark A.  
Farrar, Jennifer K.\*

Reg. No. 26,390  
Reg. No. 34,775

We hereby authorize them to act and rely on instructions from and communicate directly with the person/assignee/attorney/firm/organization/who/which first sends/sent this case to them and by whom/which We hereby declare that We have consented after full disclosure to be represented unless/until We instruct Mark A. Litman or Jennifer K. Farrar to the contrary. Please direct all correspondence in this case to Mark A. Litman & Associates, P.A. at the address indicated below:

3209 West 76th St.  
York Business Center, Suite 205  
Edina, MN 55435  
Telephone No. (952)832.9090

§ 1.56 Duty to disclose information material to patentability.

(a) A patent by its very nature is affected with a public interest. The public interest is best served, and the most effective patent examination occurs when, at the time an application is being examined, the Office is aware of and evaluates the teachings of all information material to patentability. Each individual associated with the filing and prosecution of a patent application has a duty of candor and good faith in dealing with the Office, which includes a duty to disclose to the Office all information known to that individual to be material to patentability as defined in this section. The duty to disclose information exists with respect to each pending claim until the claim is cancelled or withdrawn from consideration, or the application becomes abandoned. Information material to the patentability of a claim that is cancelled or withdrawn from consideration need not be submitted if the information is not material to the patentability of any claim remaining under consideration in the application. There is no duty to submit information which is not material to the patentability of any existing claim. The duty to disclose all information known to be material to patentability is deemed to be satisfied if all information known to be material to patentability of any claim issued in a patent was cited by the Office or submitted to the Office in the manner prescribed by §§ 1.97(b)-(d) and 1.98. However, no patent will be granted on an application in connection with which fraud on the Office was practiced or attempted or the duty of disclosure was violated through bad faith or intentional misconduct. The Office encourages applicants to carefully examine:

(1) prior art cited in search reports of a foreign patent office in a counterpart application, and

(2) the closest information over which individuals associated with the filing or prosecution of a patent application believe any pending claim patentably defines, to make sure that any material information contained therein is disclosed to the Office.

(b) Under this section, information is material to patentability when it is not cumulative to information already of record or being made of record in the application, and

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\* Jennifer K. Farrar is not a member of Mark A. Litman & Associates, P.A.

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(1) It establishes, by itself or in combination with other information, a prima facie case of unpatentability of a claim; or

(2) It refutes, or is inconsistent with, a position the applicant takes in:

(i) Opposing an argument of unpatentability relied on by the Office, or

(ii) Asserting an argument of patentability.

A prima facie case of unpatentability is established when the information compels a conclusion that a claim is unpatentable under the preponderance of evidence, burden-of-proof standard, giving each term in the claim its broadest reasonable construction consistent with the specification, and before any consideration is given to evidence which may be submitted in an attempt to establish a contrary conclusion of patentability.

(c) Individuals associated with the filing or prosecution of a patent application within the meaning of this section are:

(1) Each inventor named in the application:

(2) Each attorney or agent who prepares or prosecutes the application; and

(3) Every other person who is substantively involved in the preparation or prosecution of the application and who is associated with the inventor, with the assignee or with anyone to whom there is an obligation to assign the application.

(d) Individuals other than the attorney, agent or inventor may comply with this section by disclosing information to the attorney, agent, or inventor.

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

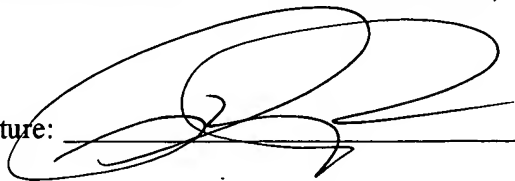
Full Name of joint inventor number 1: **Philip Stephen Smith**

Citizenship: U.S.A. Residence: 5353 Dorrell Lane, Las Vegas, Nevada 89131

Post Office Address: 5353 Dorrell Lane, Las Vegas, Nevada 89131

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_




2/10/04

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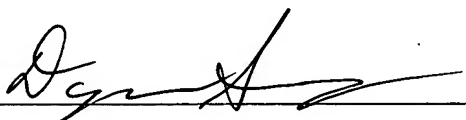
Full Name of joint inventor number 2: **Ezra Christopher MacKenna**  
Citizenship: U.S.A. Residence: 2404 Hassett Avenue, Las Vegas, Nevada 89104  
Post Office Address: 2404 Hassett Avenue, Las Vegas, Nevada 89104

Signature:  Date: 2-10-04

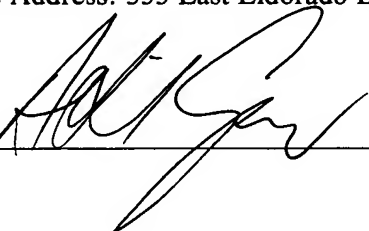
Full Name of joint inventor number 3: **Donald T. Bush**  
Citizenship: U.S.A. Residence: 1610 Stirrup Drive, Henderson, Nevada 89015  
Post Office Address: 1610 Stirrup Drive, Henderson, Nevada 89015

Signature:  Date: 2/10/04

Full Name of joint inventor number 4: **Daymon B. Savage**  
Citizenship: U.S.A. Residence: 4814 Pagosa Springs, Las Vegas, Nevada 89139  
Post Office Address: 4814 Pagosa Springs, Las Vegas, Nevada 89139

Signature:  Date: 2/10/2004

Full Name of joint inventor number 5: **Atilla Grauzer**  
Citizenship: U.S.A. Residence: 333 East Eldorado Lane, Las Vegas, Nevada 89123  
Post Office Address: 333 East Eldorado Lane, Las Vegas, Nevada 89123

Signature:  Date: 2/10/04

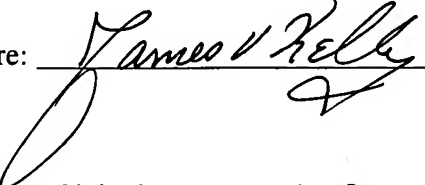
Full Name of joint inventor number 6: **Oliver M. Schubert**  
Citizenship: Austria Residence: 7735 Bermuda Road, Las Vegas, Nevada 89213  
Post Office Address: 7735 Bermuda Road, Las Vegas, Nevada 89213

Signature:  Date: 2/10/04

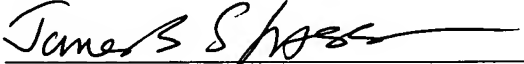
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Full Name of joint inventor number 7: **James V. Kelly**  
Citizenship: U.S.A. Residence: 9460 Corato Street, Las Vegas, Nevada 89123  
Post Office Address: 9460 Corato Street, Las Vegas, Nevada 89123

Signature:  Date: 2/10/04


Full Name of joint inventor number 8: **James B. Stasson**  
Citizenship: U.S.A. Residence: 7432 Timber Lake Drive, Eden Prairie, Minnesota 55347  
Post Office Address: 7432 Timber Lake Drive, Eden Prairie, Minnesota 55347

Signature:  Date: 2/18/04

Full Name of joint inventor number 9: **Feraidoon Bourbour**  
Citizenship: U.S.A. Residence: 2885 Knox Avenue S. #808, Minneapolis, Minnesota 55408  
Post Office Address: 2885 Knox Avenue S. #808, Minneapolis, Minnesota 55408

Signature:  Date: 2/18/04

Full Name of joint inventor number 10: **Paul K. Scheper**  
Citizenship: U.S.A. Residence: 8246 Drexel Court, Eden Prairie, Minnesota 55347  
Post Office Address: 8246 Drexel Court, Eden Prairie, Minnesota 55347

Signature:  Date: 2/18/04